



MNPD NEWSLINE

THE OFFICIAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER OF THE MNPD

October 19, 2007

News from the Chief

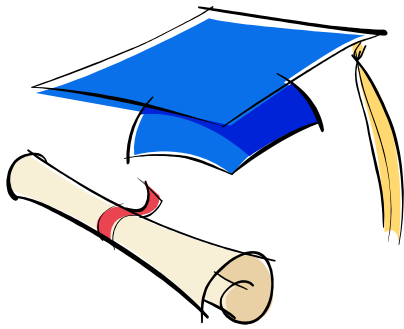
On Thursday I met with Fraternal Order of Police President Danny Hale and members of his leadership team for the first time since the FOP once again regained its position as the bargaining agent for police officers. As has been the case for the past four years, I am committed to an open dialogue with the FOP regarding matters of interest and concern, and look forward to our monthly meetings.

I am very grateful to Captain Marlene Pardue for organizing a Law Enforcement Talent Showcase that will benefit Officer Danita Marsh and the Nashville Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The event will be held this coming Monday at 6:30 p.m. at the Wildhorse Saloon on 2nd Avenue. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. In addition to the music and comedy, a number of valuable items will be up for sale to the highest bidder in a silent auction. Those items include autographed guitars, sports merchandise, hotel stays, restaurant certificates, etc. Tickets are only \$15 and will be sold at the door. I am also grateful to those members of the department who have volunteered their time and talent to perform or work behind the scenes to make Monday night a success. I regret that I will miss the show due to my participation next week in a Department of Justice sponsored meeting in Jerusalem on terrorism issues.

Please encourage anyone you know interested in becoming a Nashville police officer to attend an open house at our training academy Tuesday night from 5:30 p.m.-8 p.m. Recruiting staff and academy instructors will answer questions and make presentations about the requirements to be a Metro officer, what to expect in the academy, and how to prepare for the physical ability test. A new easy to remember Web address has been created to help answer the questions of potential new officer candidates. It is www.JOINMNPD.com.

Thank you all for your dedication and outstanding work!

Happenings



Session 55 Graduation Ceremonies
Monday, December 3
6 p.m. at Woodson Chapel Church of Christ
5800 Edmondson Pike



Officer Edwin Lawrence reviews Officer Survival with Session 55.



Officer Chris Gilder instructs Session 56 on Law Block II.

The Precinct News

Hermitage

Officers were patrolling an area due to recent car break-ins when they were alerted to two suspects running from a burglary. Two brothers, ages 12 and 15, were arrested and admitted to a vehicle burglary at the Hampton Inn.

Flex officers were on foot patrol addressing complaints of criminal activity when they saw a man urinating next to his vehicle on Cannon Street. The officers could see a pistol in his waistband. He was taken into custody and charged with felon in possession of a weapon.

Another felon was arrested after officers stopped him for speeding on Fain Street. He got out of the car, dropped a handgun, and fled on foot. He was captured a short time later and found to be in possession of ten grams of cocaine and 2.5 grams of marijuana. The suspect has over 40 prior arrests.

South

A citizen reported seeing a man go into the back window of his neighbor's home. He flagged down officers who were patrolling the area because of recent break-ins. The officers quickly secured the perimeter and were able to capture the suspect as he tried to run out the back door of the home.

Officer Chris Bowden alertly spotted serial bank robbery suspect Romonte Phillips less than ten minutes after Phillips held up Region's 2511 Nolensville Pike branch.

Officer Bowden heard the robbery call dispatched and began looking for the suspect's car. He spotted it on Nolensville Pike. The driver pulled over and Phillips was taken into custody.

Phillips admitted his involvement in the robbery and to three others.

The FBI Violent Crimes Task Force is charging Phillips federally with four counts of bank robbery.

East

A convicted felon, pulled over for an equipment violation, admitted to officers he was in possession of marijuana. Seized in a subsequent search were 2.5grams of marijuana, three prescription pills, and a pistol.

Officer Rich Lowry conducted a Terry Stop of suspicious teenagers and after a brief investigation confiscated a handgun from a 15-year-old who had previous arrests for disorderly conduct and assault. This was the second handgun seized by Officer Lowry in 48 hours.

North

A 22-year-old woman was attempting to get her child out of her car in a store parking lot when a man approached, threw her to the pavement, and attempted to take her purse. The victim held on, and he was forced to flee empty handed in a Ford Taurus driven by a second suspect.

North Precinct undercover detectives located the car less than an hour later at a nearby Sonic. Two men in their twenties are charged with attempted robbery, and cocaine and marijuana possession.

North Precinct detectives charged 18-year-old Kenneth Williams with aggravated robbery and attempted aggravated robbery in connection with two cases on October 9, and have evidence implicating him in Halloween mask hold-ups involving five businesses. Identities of other persons believed to have been involved in Sunday's cases have also been developed.

More charges against Williams and additional arrests are anticipated as the investigation continues.

The break in the case is the result of citizen assistance through Crime Stoppers and outstanding investigative work by detectives from several precincts.

West

A 69-year-old man was robbed after he caught a man rummaging through his neighbor's car. The suspect ran away, but officers spotted him a short time later near 54th Avenue North. He was later captured thanks to the efforts of Patrol, Flex, and K-9 officers. The victim identified the suspect.

Central

Officers alertly recognized a stolen car. The driver fled on foot, but was captured after a brief foot chase. The suspect dropped several items likely stolen from other vehicles including radios and an iPod. A large box of CDs and a crack pipe were recovered from the stolen car. The suspect has 66 prior arrests, including several counts of burglary from a motor vehicle, resisting arrest, and vehicle theft.

Officer Larry Benz arrested two teenage robbery suspects shortly after they demanded money from a 44-year-old man walking in the 500 block of 5th Avenue North at 7:50 p.m. When the victim told them he didn't have any money, the 16-year-old, encouraged by the 15-year-old, punched him in the head and attempted to grab the victim's wallet. The suspects fled on foot without taking anything.

The victim flagged down a passerby who called police. Within ten minutes, Officer Benz alertly spotted the suspects sitting on a bench at 4th Avenue North and Union Street where they were taken into custody without incident.

The victim positively identified the suspects who admitted their involvement.

MDHA Task Force

Officers assigned to the MDHA Task Force executed a search warrant at a residence in the 800 block of Garfield Street in response to complaints about drug sales in the Cheatham Place public housing development. Seized were six marijuana plants, 16 grams of marijuana, .6 grams of cocaine, drug paraphernalia, and a weapon.

Eboni Lenise Becton, 21, the leaseholder, and her brother, Rodney Aaron Becton, 19, are charged with possession of cocaine and marijuana for resale.

Domestic Violence Division

West Precinct Officer Marsha Brown and Domestic Violence Detective Jason Orsbon will be honored October 27 for their ongoing efforts to help the victims of domestic violence.

Officer Brown was named Patrol Officer of the Year and Orsbon was named Outstanding Detective by the Nashville Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Officer Brown and Detective Orsbon will be recognized at a ceremony Saturday, October 27, at 10 a.m. on the Shelby Street Pedestrian Bridge.

October is Domestic Violence Month; a time to remember victims of domestic violence and recognize those citizens dedicated to preventing it.

Blue Notes **West Precinct**

The West Precinct is located at 6730 Charlotte Pike in front of the newly-established Nashville West shopping center. The precinct has been operational since 1989. Commander Mickey Miller assumed leadership over the West Precinct in 2004. Serving under Commander Miller are 140 Patrol, Flex, Crime Suppression Unit, Bicycle, and School Resource officers.

From January 1 through October 13, 2007, West Precinct officers have made 6,989 arrests, served 678 felony and 1,431 misdemeanor warrants, and attempted to serve 3,214 warrants. Almost one-third of our arrests have come from warrant service attempts.

West Precinct officers continually strive to develop and maintain excellent community relationships. The proactive efforts have proven to be very helpful in building cases against those who would harm our families, friends, and neighbors. In July 2007, 16-year-old Brandy White was gunned down in an apartment on Hillside Avenue. Information provided to police from citizens led to the arrest of Dijon Simon, 16.

West Precinct officers continue to work with the community in targeting criminal activity and in keeping Nashville's streets safe and enjoyable.

Congratulations:

Officer Gregg Jennings, Hermitage Precinct, and his wife Kim, are the proud parents of Chloe Grace Jennings, born September 10.



Condolences:

Jimmy Martin, father of Mike Martin, Teleserve, and grandfather of Kellie Martin, Secondary Employment, passed away October 7.

Lois Tapscott, grandmother of Officer Crystal Smith, School Resources, passed away October 9.

Roger England, father-in-law of Chris Bryant, East Precinct, passed away October 11.

Christopher Pinkerton, brother of Detective Bruce Pinkerton, Domestic Violence Division, passed away October 12.

FYI:

As Officer Danita Marsh continues to recover from her gunshot wounds, the 100 Club of Nashville has committed to help her regain some of life's basic choices by financing the purchase of accessible housing and a specially equipped vehicle. Persons wanting to make a tax deductible contribution to assist Officer Marsh are urged to make checks payable to the 100 Club of Nashville and include the Marsh name on the memo portion. One hundred percent of the money donated will go to the Marsh fund. Checks can be mailed to The Hundred Club of Nashville, P.O. Box 190428, Nashville, Tennessee, 37219-0428.